THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In Kerala-Konkan Basin acquisition of 1800 LK of 2D seismic data and drilling of 5 wells have been planned during the period 1994-97.

In addition to the above, 2100 LK 2D seismic data has been planned for 1994-95 in deep water areas of Kerala-Konkan.

Vacent posts of SCs/STs in IBP

506. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes lying vacant in IBP Company Limited;

(b) the reasons for not filling up these posts; and

(c) the time by which these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (c) IBP Company Limited has got backlog vacancies of 22 Scheduled Castes and 19 Scheduled Tribes as on 13-3-1995. Action for filling up of the backlog positions could not be taken up in full swing as recruitment had been temporarily kept in abeyance, since IBP is in the process of redeployment of surplus manpower in their organisation. However, since December, 1993 IBP had advertised 5 vacancies of SCs and 2 vacancies of STs against which IBP could recruit 2 SC and one ST candidates.

Retail outlets to freedom fighters in Tamil Nadu

507. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state the number of freedom fighters who have been sanctioned petrol retail outlets and LPG agencies in Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): During the last three years three retail outlet dealerships and one LPG distributorship have been allotted under the Freedom Fighters category by the oil marketing companies, in Tamil Nadu.

Increase in the Commission for LPG

508. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Indian LPG Distributors Federation regarding increase of commission, abolition of slab procedure of commission and for evolving any concrete formula for fixation of separate prices for the home delivery of LPG cylinders and for their delivery at the godown;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPTAIN SATISH SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.